



OLYMPIC COAST NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Navigating the Future

Management Plan Review



What is NOW?

NOW (North Olympic Watershed) Science Program provides field science opportunities for students on North Olympic Peninsula. Through this unique program, students visit their regional watershed in diverse locations, from the pristine upper watershed found in Olympic National Park to the managed and altered watershed that feeds into the Strait of Juan de Fuca. Students use their local watershed to make a connection to the ocean and investigate the effects of human impacts on the ocean.

NOW is funded by a NOAA B-WET grant, with additional funding provided by Clallam County Marine Resource Committee and Port Angeles Rotary Club.

Partners include Olympic Park Institute, Feiro Marine Life Center, Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary, Olympic National Park, City of Port Angeles, and Clallam Conservation District.



OCNMS Education Specialist Hannah Robbins teaches students the impacts of debris on marine life.



Olympic National Park Outreach and Education Specialist Dean Butterworth helps students read results from a pH test at Peabody Creek.

What can students and teachers expect?

The elementary NOW Science Program provides an opportunity for students in grades four and five to walk their local watershed and develop a better understanding of the relationship between ecological conditions and human land use.

Through observation, data collection, and inquiry-based learning, students work with educators to help them understand the effects of human-based activities on watersheds and ultimately the ocean.

The curriculum meets Washington State Grade Level Expectations (GLEs) and national standards as well as NOAA'S Ocean Literacy Principles:

- **Essential Principle #1:** The Earth has one big ocean with many features.
- **Essential Principle #4:** The ocean makes Earth habitable.
- **Essential Principle #5:** The ocean supports a great diversity of life and ecosystems.
- **Essential Principle #6:** The ocean and humans are inextricably interconnected.
- **Essential Principle #7:** The ocean is largely unexplored.

How can teachers get involved?

Teachers should contact Deborah Moriarty at
(360) 417-6254 or
Deborah.moriarty@noaa.gov



Students gather samples using a plankton net.

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